- 7. (AMENDED) The line-illuminating device according to [any one of claims 4 through 6] claim 4, wherein said light guide section and said light condensing section are covered by a light guide casing except the emission plane for the document illuminating light.
- 8. (AMENDED) The line-illuminating device according to [any one of claims 4 through 7] <u>claim 4</u>, wherein one end of said light guide section is provided with a light source and the other end thereof is provided with a reflecting means.
- 9. (AMENDED) The line-illuminating device according to [any one of claims 4 through 8] claim 4, wherein one end of said light guide section is provided with the light source, and density of the light scattering patterns formed in the longitudinal direction of said light guide section is gradually increased toward the other end of the light guide section.
- device in which the bar-shaped light guide according to claim 1 [or claim 2] is incorporated, and a lens array for allowing light reflected from a document among the illuminating light from said line-illuminating device to be condensed toward a line image sensor made of a photoelectric conversion element, characterized in that said lens array is composed of a plurality of rod lenses, and an optical axis of said lens array is arranged in an area with less change of light intensity relative to elevation of the document.

<u>REMARKS</u>

The above preliminary amendment is made to remove multiple dependencies from claims 3, and 7-10.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.